

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /150 W

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R 091803Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8651

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16294

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, CH

SUBJECT: FRG/CHINESE RELATIONS

1. DURING NOVEMBER 8 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF FOLLOWING RETURN FROM EAST ASIA TRIP, FOREIGN OFFICE FAR EAST DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR HELLBECK COMMENTED ON THE STATE OF FRG/CHINESE RELATIONS AND ON THE RATHER THIN CHARACTER OF CHINESE RELATIONS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES AND JAPAN. HELLBECK SAID THAT AFTER ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH JAPAN AS WELL AS MANY WESTERN AND OTHER COUNTRIES, PEKING SO FAR HAD DONE RELATIVELY LITTLE TO FILL THOSE RELATIONS WITH LIFE. HE SAID THIS IS TRUE FOR PEKING'S RELATIONS WITH BONN, AND JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS TOLD HIM THIS WAS ALSO TRUE INsofar AS PEKING'S RELATIONS WITH TOKYO.

2. REGARDING FRG/CHINESE RELATIONS, HELLBECK SAID THE
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CHINESE EMBASSY IS A SELF-CONTAINED ESTABLISHMENT OF

ABOUT 50 PEOPLE, WITH SOME 15 DIPLOMATS, WITH AN AILING AMBASSADOR WHO IS RARELY SEEN. FEW CHINESE DIPLOMATS EVER COME TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE; THREE WEEKS AFTER THE TANAKA VISIT TO BONN, HELLBECK INVITED THE CHINESE DCM DOWN TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE FOR A BRIEFING. HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT IT HAD NOT OCCURRED TO THE CHINESE TO MAKE SUCH A CALL AS IT WAS NOT PART OF THE NORMAL CHINESE PRACTICE. HELLBECK SAID JAPANESE FOREIGN OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES CONFIRMED THIS CHINESE PRACTICE IN TOKYO AS WELL, EXCEPT WHEN SOME TAIWANESE SPORTS TEAM IS ABOUT TO VISIT JAPAN.

3. HELLBECK SAID CHINA'S FAVORITE GERMAN POLITICIAN IS DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER; THIS FITS IN WELL WITH PEKING'S CURRENT SUPPORT OF THE NATO SHIELD AGAINST SOVIET AGGRESSION. THE CHINESE ALSO TEND TO PREFER THE FDP PARTY AS OPPOSED TO EITHER ITS SPD COALITION PARTNER OR THE CDU OPPOSITION.

GERMAN INTERIOR MINISTER GENSCHER (FDP VICE-CHAIRMAN) IS ABOUT TO VISIT CHINA NEXT WEEK; IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT HE WILL BE INSPECTING IN CHINA. THE CHINESE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN GERMAN TECHNOLOGY. THEY INVITED MINISTER VON DOHNANYI TO CHINA WHEN THE LATTER WAS MINISTER OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND EDUCATION. TO CHINESE CHAGRIN, DOHNANYI'S TRIP TO THE PRC WAS MADE LAST WEEK AFTER HE HAD GIVEN UP HIS PORTFOLIO CONCERNING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO ANOTHER MINISTER.

4. AS EXPLANATION FOR THIS CHINESE DIPLOMACY TOWARD THE WEST AND JAPAN, HELLBECK SAID CHOU-EN-LAI TAKES THE TIME TO SPEAK TO ALL IMPORTANT FOREIGN VISITORS AND JOURNALISTS, AND DELEGATES VERY LITTLE AUTHORITY TO HIS SUBORDINATES. AS A RESULT, CHOU AND THE CHINESE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER HAVE TO MAKE DECISIONS ON THE MOST DETAILED AND SOMETIMES INCONSEQUENTIAL MATTERS. HELLBECK BELIEVES THIS SITUATION, ALONG WITH CHINESE UNFAMILIARITY WITH THE WESTERN WORLD HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE RATHER THIN NATURE OF CURRENT PRC RELATIONS WITH THE WEST.

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